

## Voelker receives Middle East Region Unit PAO of Year Award

By 1<sup>st</sup> Lynn Hoffman

Martinsburg Composite Squadron

Middle East Region Civil Air Patrol Commander Col Kay Joslin Walling awarded the MER Unit Public Affairs Officer of the Year Award to Martinsburg Composite Squadron Public Affairs Officer Lt Russell Voelker during the MER Conference held in April at Richmond, Va.

Prior to his selection for the region award, Voelker had previously been chosen as the West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol Unit Public Affairs Officer of the Year

Voelker first joined CAP as a cadet in 1969. After graduating from Martinsburg High School, he joined the U.S. Air Force where he

put his cadet training to good use. After serving four years in the USAF,

Voelker worked as a firefighter for the Martinsburg VA Medical Center, but then later joined the Metro Washington Airports Authority Fire Department at Dulles International Airport near Washington, D.C. After retirement, Voelker joined the Martinsburg Composite Squadron in September 2004. He was appointed Public Affairs Officer for the unit in May 2005.

To keep the members of the Martinsburg unit informed, Voelker has created a squadron news letter, ***The Ridge Runner***, along with a unit photo album. He is

currently in the process of redesigning, and upgrading the squadron's website.

Lt Voelker has been actively involved in organizing the squadron's color guard, which participated in two parades in Martinsburg in 2005.

Voelker's significant achievement to date was a membership recruiting and drug demand education booth, which he set up for a two day air show, and was viewed by an estimated 30,000 people who attended.

In addition, he has achieved his mission scanner and observer aircrew ratings, and is now working towards his mission information officer rating.



*Middle East Region Commander Col Kay Joslin Walling, left, presents Martinsburg Composite Squadron Public Affairs Officer Lt Russell Voelker the MER Unit Public Affairs Officer of the Year Award. Also joining them is West Virginia Wing Commander Col Rodney A. Moore.*

## Cadets learn leadership training

**Lt Col Dennis Barron**

**Wing Chief of Staff**

Nineteen of West Virginia Wing's best and brightest cadets gathered at the U. S. Mine Safety Academy, at Beckley, W.Va. during the weekend of May 12 – 14. The 19 higher-ranking NCO's and cadet officers were invited to the academy to participate in another Cadet Leadership Training Course (CLTC), the fourth one to be conducted by the Wing over the last two years. This time, the leadership course concentrated on developing and enhancing the cadets' skills that they would need in order to assume a strong leadership role at the 2006 Summer Encampment.

Lt Col Dennis Barron, once again, served as the Project Director for the CLTC and noted that the course curriculum was focused on issues, activities, and problems that normally occur at a cadet encampment. "The cadets received an intense weekend training session that contained both written and verbal exercises, problem solving, along with lots of drill, volleyball, and a few surprises thrown in for good measure", said Lt Col Barron.

One of the major tasks undertaken by the cadets during the training weekend consisted of helping to write a new Encampment Training Manual, which can be used for future encampments. The cadets were divided into three seminar groups with each group assigned to write different sections of the new manual. The cadets did an outstanding job during the weekend and aptly demonstrated that they are ready, willing, and able to take charge of the 2006 Summer Encampment and train the younger and new cadets of the West Virginia Wing. The West Virginia Wing can be very proud of our cadet cadre.



*Graduates of the Cadet Leadership Training Course*

## Potomac Highlands Squadron receives charter

**By Major Jeffery Schrock**

**Director of Public Affairs**

During a ceremony held at Grant County Airport in Petersburg, W.Va., West Virginia Wing Commander Lt Col Rodney A. Moore presented to Roy Martin, squadron commander, a charter certificate from National Headquarters to become a Civil Air Patrol Unit. The unit will be based at the airport, and is growing with new members. Anyone interested in joining the unit can contact Wing Headquarters at 304-343-8866.

*West Virginia Wing Commander Col Rodney A. Moore presents Potomac Highlands Composite Squadron Roy Martin with a charter establishing a Civil Air Patrol Unit in Petersburg, W.Va.*



## Milestones and Achievements

**Amelia Earhart: Patrick A. Gagan, Austin T. Ross, Justin T. Ross - Parkersburg Composite Squadron**  
**General Billy Mitchell Award: Caroline Perruci - Parkersburg Composite Squadron; Joleen Dawson – Clarksburg Composite Squadron; Terina Miller – Wheeling Composite Squadron**  
**Wright Brother's: Joshua Wilson of Beckley; Matthew Behrmann, Andrew Mitchell, and Jonathan Brown - Martinsburg Composite Squadron; Shawn M. Thompson**

**Promotion to Major: Jeffery Schrock- Wing HQ; Lt Col: Thomas C Hager – Parkersburg Composite Squadron**

## Wing conducts Regional SAREX held at Petersburg

By Lt Russell Voelker

Martinsburg Composite Squadron

A very successful weekend of Emergency Services training was held March 17-19, 2006 at Grant County Airport in Petersburg, W.Va. A total of 53 members turned out from Clarksburg, Martinsburg, Charleston Cadet, and Morgantown Squadrons.

Members from Wing staff also attended. The number of cadets who participated and endured two very cold, and windy nights was especially notable. Without the dedicated seniors who also endured the cold, this training would not have been possible.

Over the two days, 13 air sorties were flown focusing primarily on mission observer training. Ground sorties were run up into the Dolly Sods wilderness, and yes the targets were found, and the ELT's were collected.

Several cadets assisted with mission base communications duties, and the remaining cadets also did a challenging compass course conducted by Major Bart Rogers. Most importantly it was done safely.

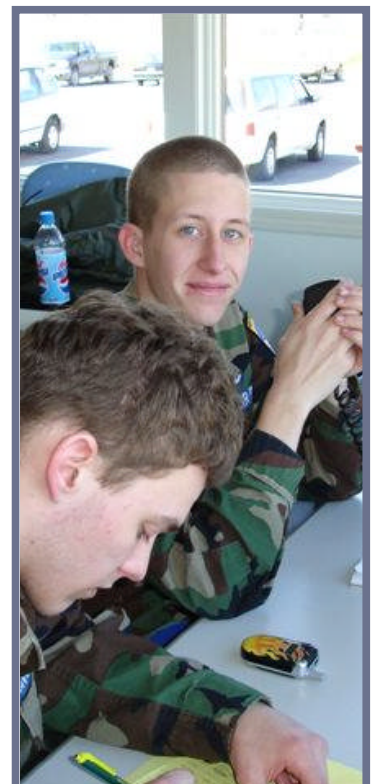
Special thanks to Larry Stahl, airport manager and Civil Air Patrol member for the great hospitality.



*A Civil Air Patrol aircraft takes off from Grant Count Airport to conduct a sortie.*



*Middle photo, Aircrews prepare to be briefed before heading out for sorties during a regional SAREX held at Grant County Airport in Petersburg, W. Va. Right photo, cadets man the radios.*





## Clarksburg Cadets complete Curry Camp

**Lt John Carr**  
**Clarksburg Composite Squadron**



Five Clarksburg Cadets received the General John F. Curry achievement award on Sunday June 4th by completing a three-day class at the Clarksburg Squadron Headquarters. The “Curry Award” is the first step in their progression through the ranks of the Cadet program. It is a comprehensive course in military courtesy, bearing, history, and uniform standards, along with the basics of the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program.

Cadets completing this achievement were Ryan Childers, Daniel Dawson, Brett Levine, James Long, and Jesse Low. They were assisted by Cadet 2nd Lt Joleen Dawson, Cadet CMSgt Joseph Moss, Cadet A1C Joshua Bosely, and Cadet C/TSgt Rayan Landes who are senior Cadet Advisers and helped instruct the classes. Senior member instructors for the course were 1st Lt Kathleen Dawson, 2nd Lt Randy Landes, and Capt Debbie Boggs, West Virginia Wing Director of Cadet Programs. At the conclusion of the weekend Captain Gerald Wedemeyer, Commanding Officer of the Clarksburg Squadron presented the cadets their certificates.

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